

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Applicants' and Applicants' representative would like to thank Examiner Englund for the indication of allowable subject matter recited by claims 4-8. In response to the Office Action dated February 24, 2005, Applicants have amended the Title of the Invention and the specification in the manner suggested by the Examiner so as to address the pending objections to the disclosure. Also, claim 4 has been rewritten into independent format, claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter recited by claim 4, and the dependency of claims 9 and 11 has been amended to depend on amended claim 4. Further, Applicants have amended claims 9, 11, 12 and 13 to replace the claim term "switch" with the term "switching," and deleted the term "the" from claim 5 as suggested by the Examiner. New claims 14-15 are added. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at page 14, line 7 to page 15, line 4 of the specification. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, as every issue raised in the pending Office Action has been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that claims 4-13 are now in condition for allowance.

With respect to new claim 14, this claim recites in-part that the load circuit includes a load adjustment section for adjusting the amount of electric current which the load circuit consumes. However, as is apparent from Fig. 2C of Kwan, the alleged load circuit R does not contain any load adjusting means for adjusting the current therethrough.

Furthermore, new claim 14 also recites that a load circuit ... consumes substantially the *same* amount of electric current as ... the internal circuit ... during an operation period.

In the pending rejection, it is admitted that Applicants' admitted prior art (AAPA) does not disclose or suggest a switching transistor and a load circuit, and the transistor and resistor of

the dummy load circuit 101 of Kwan are relied upon to cure these deficiencies. Specifically, the Examiner relies on Figs. 2C and 2D of Kwan as allegedly disclosing the foregoing claim features (see, page 5, lines 8-12 of Office Action).

However, Applicants respectfully disagree with such interpretation, because Kwan, at best, discloses only that the power supply current I_{sup} flowing into and out of the object 103 and the dummy load circuit 101 is maintained at a constant. That is, the current I_{sup} at time = 0 is the same as the current I_{sup} at time t (see, col. 4, lines 53-59). However, Kwan is completely silent with regard to the relationship between the current I_{obj} going through the object 103 and the current going through the alleged load circuit R, let alone determine that the current consumed by the alleged load circuit R is substantially the *same* as that consumed by the object 103. This absence of teaching is further evidenced by the fact that Kwan specifically uses the term I_{dl} to express the current going through the alleged load circuit R and the alleged switching transistor as a *whole*, and does not discuss or recognize the current I_{dl} as the current through *only* the alleged load circuit R. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the AAPA and Kwan, taken alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest “a load circuit ... consumes substantially the *same* amount of electric current as ... the internal circuit ... during an operation period.”

As a final note, as claim 14 also recites the allowable subject matter “... the switching transistor is turned OFF when the internal circuit is in an operation state and is turned ON when the internal circuit is in a non-operation state (see, page 8, lines 1-4),” it is respectfully submitted that claim 14 is patentable over the cited prior art.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner’s amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants’ attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Application No.: 10/750,866

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP


Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
Phone: 202.756.8000 MEF/AHC/jdj/dlb
Facsimile: 202.756.8087
Date: May 24, 2005

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